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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

After consultations among members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 3256th meeting, on 20 July 1993, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Complaint by Ukraine regarding the Decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation concerning Sevastopol":

"The Security Council has considered the letter dated 13 and 16 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the President of the Council (S/26075 and S/26100), transmitting a statement by the President of Ukraine on the Decree adopted by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation on 9 July 1993 concerning Sevastopol and a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the same matter.

"The Security Council has also considered the letter dated 19 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation (S/26109), circulating a statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation concerning the aforementioned Decree.

"The Security Council shares the deep concern, and welcomes the position, expressed by the President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine concerning the Decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation. In this context, it also welcomes the position taken by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Government of the Russian Federation.

"The Security Council reaffirms in this connection its commitment to the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Security Council recalls that in the Treaty between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, signed at Kiev on 19 November 1990, the High Contracting Parties committed themselves to respect each other's territorial integrity within their currently existing frontiers. The Decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation is incompatible with this commitment as well as with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and without effect.

"The Security Council welcomes the efforts of the Presidents and the Governments of the Russian Federation and Ukraine to settle any differences

between them by peaceful means and urges that they take all steps to ensure the avoidance of tension.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."